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SUBJECT: NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT BUSH

1. (U) The following message was faxed to U.S. Embassy on January 2 from President Ismail Omar Guelleh to President Bush. The original letter will be pouched to the Desk upon receipt.

2. Begin text:

Excellency, as the year approaches, I extend on behalf of the Government and People of Djibouti, and indeed on my own behalf, sincere best wishes of peace, progress and prosperity to your Excellency and the people of your great nation.

It is my fervent hope that the year 2005 will witness further strengthening of the existing cordial and mutually beneficial relations between our two countries in a spirit of cooperation, goodwill and friendship.

Please accept, your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration and fraternal esteem.

(signed) Ismail Omar Guelleh  
President of the Republic of Djibouti  
End text.  
RAGSDALE